



Three linked risks for development in the Pacific Islands: Climate change, disasters and conflict

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Abstract:

Pacific Island countries are demonstrably vulnerable to the risks of climate change, disasters and conflict. This article outlines the conceptual links between these risks, briefly describes how each of the risks operates in the Pacific Islands, and goes on to demonstrate the interaction of climate change, disasters and potential for conflict in the Pacific Islands, by applying a new conceptual framework to some illustrative case studies. The case studies include relocation after the Gizo earthquake, 'environmental refugees' from sea level rise, and aggravation of the social issues of urbanization and unemployed youth by climate change. Fortunately, none of these cases has yet crossed the threshold into violent conflict, even though relocation of an affected community onto someone else's land is a particularly sensitive issue in the Pacific Islands.

Source: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/17565529.2011.603193>

Resource Description

Early Warning System:

resource focus on systems used to warn populations of high temperatures, extreme weather, or other elements of climate change to prevent harm to health

A focus of content

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Security, Food/Water Security, Human Conflict/Displacement, Human Conflict/Displacement, Sea Level Rise, Unspecified Exposure

Extreme Weather Event: Drought, Flooding, Hurricanes/Cyclones, Landslides

Food/Water Security: Fisheries, Food Access/Distribution

Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Ocean/Coastal, Rural, Urban

Geographic Location:

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Australasia

Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Adaption/Mitigation): 

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

A focus of content

Health Impact: 

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Health Outcome Unspecified

Intervention: 

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

A focus of content

Mitigation/Adaptation: 

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation, Mitigation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern: 

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Low Socioeconomic Status, Workers

Other Vulnerable Population: farmers;unemployed youth

Resource Type: 

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article, Research Article

Timescale: 

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment: 

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content